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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/741,905	12/22/2000	James Frederick Hopeck	839-825 17GE-5414	6593

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EXAMINER

PEREZ, GUILLERMO

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2834	

2834

DATE MAILED: 08/12/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/741,905	Applicant(s) HOPECK, JAMES FREDERICK
Examiner Guillermo Perez	Art Unit 2834

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 July 2002.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.
- 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 8-15 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-7 and 16-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4,5.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Claims 8-15 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 7.

Specification

The use of the trademark RTV has been noted in this application. It should be capitalized wherever it appears and be accompanied by the generic terminology.

Although the use of trademarks is permissible in patent applications, the proprietary nature of the marks should be respected and every effort made to prevent their use in any manner which might adversely affect their validity as trademarks.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1, 5, 7 and 16, 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Boer et al. (U. S. Pat. 5,053,663).

Referring to claim 1, Boer et al. disclose a winding support structure for use with a rotor, the support structure comprising:

an inner support ring (4);

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an outer support ring (5,6,60) arranged around an outer circumference of the inner support ring (4);

first and second support blocks (2) coupled to the outer support ring (5,6,60); and

a lamination (1) coupled to the first and second support blocks (2) so that a slot is defined between the support blocks (2) and between the outer support ring (5,6,60) and the lamination (1) to receive a portion of a winding (3).

Referring to claims 5, 20, Boer et al. disclose another inner support ring (figure 2), another outer support ring arranged around an outer circumference of the another inner support ring, the another outer support ring being coupled to the first and second support blocks.

Referring to claims 7 and 21, Boer et al. disclose a third support block coupled to the outer support ring to define another slot between the second and third support blocks and between the outer support ring and the lamination, another portion of the winding being arranged in the another slot.

Referring to claim 16, Boer et al. disclose an apparatus for use with a rotor comprising:

an inner support ring;

an outer support ring arranged around an outer circumference of the inner support ring;

first and second support blocks coupled to the outer support ring;

a lamination coupled to the first and second support blocks; and

a winding, a portion of the winding being arranged within a slot that is defined between the support blocks and between the outer support ring and the lamination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 2-4, 6, and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boer et al. in view of Sato et al. (U. S. Pat. 4,740,724).

Boer et al. substantially teaches the claimed invention except that it does not show that a clearance space in the slot is filled with a RTV. Boer et al. do not disclose that the inner support ring is a solid ring.

Sato et al. disclose that a clearance space in the slot is filled with a silicone rubber (column 4, lines 15-18). The invention of Sato et al. has the purpose of sealing the cavity and electrically insulate the embodiment.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to modify the winding support structure of Boer et al. and provide it with the silicone rubber disclosed by Sato et al. for the purpose of sealing the cavity and electrically insulate the embodiment.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the inner ring as a solid ring since it has been held that forming in one piece an article which has formerly been formed in two pieces and put

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together involves only routine skill in the art. *Howard v. Detroit Stove Works*, 150 U. S. 164 (1893).

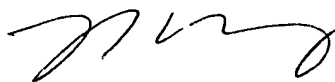
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Guillermo Perez whose telephone number is (703) 306-5443. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday and alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on (703) 308 1371. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305 3432 for regular communications and (703) 305 3432 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308 0956.

Guillermo Perez
August 8, 2002


NESTOR RAMIREZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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